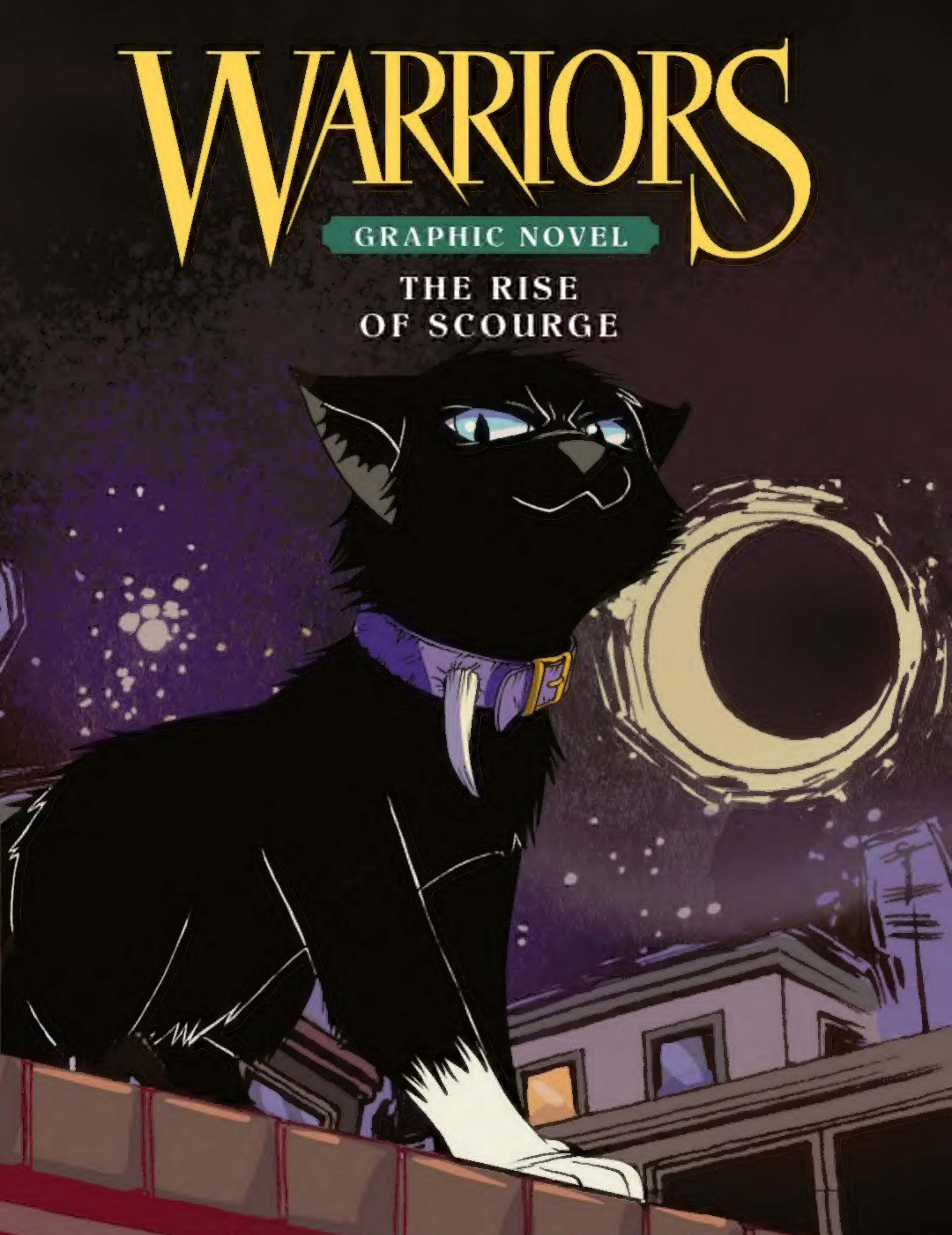
WARRIORS

GRAPHIC NOVEL

THE RISE OF SCOURGE



ERIN HUNTER

#1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

ENTER THE WORLD OF

WARRIORS

CHECK OUT
WARRIORCATS.COM TO

- explore amazing fan art, stories, and videos
- have your say with polls and Warriors reactions
- ask questions at the Moonpool
- explore the full family tree
- read exclusives from Erin Hunter
- and more!

WARRIORS

THE RISE OF SCOURGE

WARRIORS

THE RISE OF SCOURGE

CREATED BY
ERIN HUNTER

WRITTEN BY
DAN JOLLEY

ART BY
BETTINA M. KURKOSKI

COLORS BY
DANIELLE WEIRES

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

HARPER alley

An Imprint of HarperCollins*Publishers*

Warriors: The Rise of Scourge

Created by Erin Hunter

Written by Dan Jolley

Art by Bettina M. Kurkoski

Colors by Danielle Weires

Lettering - Lucas Rivera

Cover Design - Anne Marie Horne

Editor - Lillian Diaz-Przybyl

Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford

Pre-Production Supervisor - Erika Terriquez

Production Manager - Elisabeth Brizzi

Managing Editor - Vy Nguyen

Creative Director - Anne Marie Horne

Editor-in-Chief - Rob Tokar

Publisher - Mike Kiley

President and C.O.O. - John Parker

C.E.O. and Chief Creative Officer - Stu Levy

A TOKYOPOP Manga

TOKYOPOP and are trademarks or registered trademarks of TOKYOPOP Inc.

TOKYOPOP Inc.

5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000

Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com

Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

Text copyright © 2008 by Working Partners Limited

Art copyright © 2008 by TOKYOPOP Inc. and HarperCollins Publishers

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. By payment of the required fees, you have been granted the non-exclusive, non-transferable right to access and read the text of this e-book on screen. No part of this text may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or stored in or introduced into any information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known or hereafter invented, without the express written permission of HarperCollins Publishers.

www.harpercollinschildrens.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

EPUB Edition © 2024

ISBN: 9780063351752

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

FIRST EDITION

Dear readers,

Scourge, leader of BloodClan, is the closest thing to evil we will ever encounter in the forest.

When I first created him, I must confess I didn't think about his past. I just needed a truly terrifying cat—one who didn't seem physically threatening at first, but who had a hunger for violence and bloodshed that far exceeded anything the Clan cats had seen before. If ever a character were purely bad, Scourge is it. He certainly made a powerful enemy for Firestar, leader of ThunderClan, when Scourge challenged all four Clans to fight for control of the forest.

But when I stopped to consider what might have shaped his character, I realized that this was a story that could be very interesting to explore. A manga novel seemed like the perfect opportunity to go back to Scourge's origins and track his path from cute fluffy kit (because ALL kits are cute and fluffy, right?) to evil tyrant. I didn't want to make excuses for his behavior because no amount of misfortune or bullying could justify that sort of savagery; instead, I was curious to see how another smart, ambitious, and courageous young cat (is anyone else thinking FIRESTAR?) could end up following a much darker, blood-soaked path.

So walk in Scourge's pawsteps—if you dare—and see if you still judge him as harshly by the end. Every cat deserves to have his story told, and this is Scourge's hour.

Best wishes always,
Erin Hunter

WARRIORS

THE RISE OF SCOURGE

THAT'S US.

MY BROTHER SOCKS...

...MY SISTER RUBY...

...AND ME.

MAMA CALLS ME TINY.

AND THAT'S MAMA. HER NAME'S QUINCE.

READY OR NOT...

...HERE I COME!

THMP

MOWFF

FOUND YOU!

HA HA HA!

RUBY! SOCKS! COME HERE AT ONCE.

YES, MAMA?

YOU SHOULDN'T PLAY SO ROUGHLY WITH YOUR BROTHER! YOU KNOW BETTER THAN THAT.

I HATE BEING SMALL.

BUT MAMA, HE'S TOO WEAK, AND HE MEWLS TOO MUCH. HE ALWAYS GIVES AWAY WHERE HE IS!

IT'S NO FUN TO PLAY WITH HIM.

ALL I WANT IS FOR MY BROTHER AND SISTER TO LIKE ME.

HE'S YOUR BROTHER, RUBY, AND YOU SHOULD TREAT HIM BETTER. I DON'T WANT TO SEE ROUGHHOUSING LIKE THAT AGAIN.

I'D GROW IF I COULD.

WE'RE ALL PRETTY EXCITED WHEN MAMA SAYS WE'RE GOING OUTSIDE.

WE'VE NEVER BEEN OUTSIDE BEFORE.

THE NICE HOUSEFOLK WHO GIVE US FOOD PUT SOMETHING AROUND OUR NECKS.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT IT MAKES A LITTLE TINKLY SOUND. I LIKE IT!

WE SEE ALL KINDS OF THINGS WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

PLUS I REALIZE...

...THERE'S EVEN MORE TO SEE, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS FENCE!

I THINK I KNOW WHAT THIS IS. I THINK I'VE HEARD MAMA TALK ABOUT IT A COUPLE OF TIMES.

I THINK IT'S THE FOREST.

TINY! TINY, COME HERE!

HEY! SOCKS AND RUBY ARE PLAYING A NEW GAME!

WHY DON'T THEY GRAB IT? WHY'RE THEY JUST BATTING AT IT LIKE THAT?

I DON'T THINK THEY'RE DOING IT RIGHT.

???

??

CAN I PLAY?

...I GUESS.

HEY!

I GOT IT!
I GOT IT!

GIVE ME THAT.

HUH?

YOU'RE NO FUN. YOU DON'T PLAY RIGHT.

...BUT I *GOT* IT!

MAMA?

YES, TINY?

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT...

..ABOUT THE FOREST?

A LITTLE BIT

IT DIDN'T SCARE YOUR FATHER AS MUCH AS IT DID ME... HE EXPLORED THERE A COUPLE OF TIMES AND TOLD ME ABOUT IT.

IT'S A DARK, SHADOWY, DANGEROUS PLACE... AND THE WILD FOREST CATS WHO LIVE THERE ARE QUICK AND FEROCIOUS.

THEY HAVE TO FIGHT EVERY DAY TO SURVIVE.

THEY FACE AWFUL MONSTERS AND ALL KINDS OF BEASTS...

AH-HA!

EEEP!

...AND ONLY THE STRONGEST WARRIORS MAKE IT THROUGH.

WILL WE EVER GO TO THE FOREST, MAMA?

NO, TINY.

FOREST CATS HAVE FLEAS.

YOU'RE SAFER HERE.

gross!

I MEAN IT. THIS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU

THOSE SAVAGES ARE A SCOURGE ON THE NAME OF ALL GOOD CATS.

YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN PROUD OF YOUR KITS, MY LOVE.

STRANGE THAT NONE OF THEM HAVE YOUR GINGER FUR...

...BUT I SEE YOUR SPIRIT IN THEM JUST THE SAME.

WE GO OUT INTO THE GARDEN A FEW MORE TIMES...

...BUT SOCKS AND RUBY DON'T LET ME PLAY WITH THEM ANYMORE.

MAMA DOESN'T SAY IT...

GOOD! VERY GOOD! PUT YOUR WHOLE BODY INTO THE SWIPE, SOCKS!

RUBY, DON'T FORGET YOUR BACK CLAWS!

...BUT I THINK SHE LIKES THEM BETTER THAN ME.

SOCKS? RUBY..?

WILL YOU SHOW ME HOW TO FIGHT, TOO?

FORGET IT, RUNT!

HA HA HA! CAN'T CATCH US!

COME ON, GUYS...I JUST WANT TO PLAY...

GUYS? ...WHERE'D YOU GO?

SOCKS! RUBY! YOU TWO COME OUT OF THERE THIS INSTANT!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU ABOUT HOW TO TREAT YOUR BROTHER!

BUT MOM, HE'S SUCH A LITTLE PIPSQUEAK!

MAMA SAYS SOMETHING ELSE TO THEM, BUT I DON'T LISTEN. IT'S NOT MY FAULT I'M SO LITTLE!

THAT'S ALL THEY CARE ABOUT, THOUGH. BEING BIG AND STRONG IS ALL THAT MATTERS.

WE DON'T LIKE HIM!

I'LL SHOW THEM.

I'LL WAIT UNTIL THEY'RE TAKING A NAP...

...AND THEN I'LL SHOW THEM WHO'S BIG AND STRONG!

PWFF

OH, WOW..

OH...

THE TREES ARE BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT. EVERYTHING IS BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT.

BUT I'M NOT SCARED. I'M NOT. 'CAUSE I'M STRONG.

MAOW?

sniff!
sniff!

RAOWR!

WOW...WOW!

MRROW?

THIS IS THE BIGGEST, COOLEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN!

RRF...

MRRF...

I MADE IT! I MADE IT! I—

FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP

CAAW

FLUTTER
FLUTTER

I DID IT! I DIDN'T RUN, OR CRY, OR ANYTHING! I DID IT!

I'M STRONG!

TINY! TIIIINY! WHERE ARE YOU?

TIIIINY!

NO! I WAS EXPLORING!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

DID YOU GET LOST? WERE YOU SCARED?

I WENT OUT INTO THE FOREST, AND I SAW THIS AWFUL BEASTIE ON THE GROUND, AND I ATTACKED THIS HUGE LEAF...

...AND I CLIMBED A TOWER, AND A GIANT BIRD WENT RIGHT BY MY HEAD AND I DIDN'T EVEN BLINK!

I'M MORE EXCITED THAN I'VE EVER BEEN...

...BUT I KNOW FROM THEIR FACES, THEY DON'T BELIEVE A WORD I'M SAYING.

AH HA HA HA HA... CLIMBED A TOWER, HE SAYS...

AND DON'T FORGET THE GIANT BIRD! HEE HEE HEE...YOU'RE TOO LITTLE TO HAVE BIG ADVENTURES LIKE THAT, TINY!

IT'S TRUE! IT IS! PLUS, I, I BUILT A HOUSE OUT OF TWIGS AND LEAVES, AND I LIVED IN IT!

AND THEN I CAUGHT A FOX, AND I ATE IT!

WELL, I THINK YOU'RE A VERY BRAVE LITTLE CAT.

WE KNOW YOU'RE LYING, TINY.

YEAH. YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE LIAR.

SOCKS, RUBY, BE QUIET. I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

MAMA SAID SHE THOUGHT I WAS BRAVE...

...BUT I DON'T THINK SHE BELIEVED ME AT ALL.

SOON YOU'LL BE GOING TO YOUR NEW HOME. IF YOU LEARN TO BEHAVE YOURSELVES.

NOBODY HERE BELIEVES ME. NOBODY HERE EVEN LIKES ME.

WE MIGHT EVEN SEE EACH OTHER IF YOU DON'T LIVE TOO FAR AWAY.

WELL, I'LL SHOW THEM. WHEN I GET BIG ENOUGH...

AWWW... MAMA, I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE! DO I HAVE TO GO?

YES, DEAR. SOON YOU'LL HAVE YOUR OWN HOUSEFOLK TO TAKE CARE OF... AND A BRAND-NEW BACKYARD TO PLAY IN.

...THEY'LL ALL SEE.

A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER WE HEAR STRANGE VOICES OUTSIDE...

HERE—PLAY WITH THIS BALL. AND ACT ADORABLE..!

AW LOOK AT THE LITTLE KITTIES!

SOCKS AND RUBY DON'T FOOL ME. THEY'RE JUST PRETENDING.

...AND THE NEW HOUSEFOLK MAMA WAS TALKING ABOUT COME IN.

OH, THEY'RE JUST SO CUTE!

WELL, I DON'T WANT TO PRETEND.

AND I DON'T WANT TO GET ANYWHERE NEAR SOCKS OR RUBY.

THE HOUSEFOLK CUB WANTS US. NOT YOU

AND YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS TO UN-WANTED KITTENS?

THEY GET THROWN IN THE RIVER.

I DON'T WANT TO GET THROWN IN THE RIVER!

I THINK ABOUT WHAT RUBY TOLD ME THE WHOLE REST OF THE DAY AND ALL NIGHT, TOO.

THE NEW HOUSEFOLK COME BACK THE NEXT DAY...AND I'M THINKING..

...I'VE GOTTA GET THEM TO LIKE ME THE SAME WAY THEY LIKE SOCKS AND RUBY. I'VE JUST GOT TO.

I TRY TO ACT CUTE... INSTEAD OF REALLY SCARED...

...AND THE HOUSEFOLK CUB GOES RIGHT PAST ME!

SHE DOESN'T WANT ME AT ALL!

THEY'RE NOT GONNA THROW ME IN THE RIVER.

I WON'T LET 'EM. I WON'T LET 'EM.

GOTTA GET AWAY... GET AS FAR AWAY AS I CAN...

FAR AWAY AS I—HUH?

WELL, WELL. LOOK AT THAT.

RUNNIN' AWAY FROM HOME, ARE WE, THEN?

JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GO IN THE FOREST, SONNY.

WHY SHOULDN'T I GO IN THE FOREST?

I'M NOT TOO SMALL! I'M PLENTY BIG!

YOU'RE MUCH TOO SMALL TO GO VENTURING IN THERE.

WHY, THOSE FOREST CATS WOULD EAT UP A CAT AS SMALL AS YOU IN A SINGLE GULP.

AND I'M STRONG, TOO!

sniff! sniff!

RIGHT THEN I CATCH A SCENT... SOMETHING WARM...SOMETHING SCRUMPTIOUS. IT'S RIGHT OUT THERE IN THE WOODS.

I'M NOT AFRAID OF THE FOREST, OR ANYTHING IN IT.

THIS IS SO GREAT! I'M IN THE FOREST, AND IT SMELLS WONDERFUL, AND THE LEAVES FEEL SO GOOD ON MY PAWS, AND I—

THEY CAN SAY WHAT THEY WANT TO.

I'M GOING EXPLORING.

sniff! sniff!

—UH-OH!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THIS IS THUNDERCLAN TERRITORY!

THISTLECLAW, HE'S ONLY A KIT. IT'S NOT AS IF HE POSES A THREAT TO US.

AN INTRUDER'S AN INTRUDER, BLUEFUR! YOU'RE ONLY SAYING THAT BECAUSE HE'S A KITTYPET.

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOO SOFT ON THEM.

FOREST CATS! REAL LIVE FOREST CATS! I...I...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. IF I RUN, THEY'LL CATCH ME! BUT IF I DON'T...

I THINK THE KITTYPET SHOULD BE TAUGHT A LESSON. ONE HE'LL REMEMBER.

SO BE IT, THEN.

HERE, LET'S PUT IT TO MY APPRENTICE. WHAT DO YOU THINK, TIGERPAW? HOW SHOULD WE HANDLE THIS?

NOW, HOLD ON, THERE'S NO NEED FOR THIS—

I HAVE TO FIGHT. I HAVE TO. MAYBE I CAN DO IT! MAYBE I CAN BE STRONG, AND—

AOWW!

WHAMM

SLATCH

EEEP!

SAY GOOD-BYE, KITTYPET.

WARRIORS DO NOT NEED TO KILL CATS TO WIN A BATTLE, REMEMBER?

STOP, TIGERPAW! THAT'S ENOUGH!

I WAS JUST DEFENDING OUR TERRITORY.

AND YOU'VE DONE THAT. THIS KIT HAS LEARNED HIS LESSON.

YEAH.

YOU'LL NEVER FORGET ME.

I HURT EVERYWHERE.

I'VE GOT TO GET HOME.

BUT WHEN I GET THERE, I REMEMBER. I DON'T HAVE A HOME. SOCKS AND RUBY ARE GONE NOW...

...AND IF I GO BACK, THEY'LL THROW ME IN THE RIVER.

GOOD-BYE, MAMA.

CAN'T GO HOME...CAN'T GO IN THE FOREST...

...SO THIS IS MY ONLY CHOICE. I'VE HEARD MAMA TALK ABOUT THE TWOLEGPLACE BEFORE, BUT...

...THERE'S JUST SO MUCH... SO MUCH...

VROOM!!

IT'S LIKE WALKING INTO SOME KIND OF BAD DREAM.

I DON'T EVEN REALIZE I'M HUNGRY TILL I SEE THE TWOLEG FOOD ON THE GROUND.

I'VE HAD A LITTLE NIBBLE OF TWOLEG FOOD BEFORE. IT TASTED REALLY GOOD! MAYBE I CAN—

HSSSSS

GET LOST, SCRAP!

THIS IS JUST LIKE SOCKS AND RUBY, BUT WORSE! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, I'VE GOT TO FIND SOMEWHERE THAT—

HEY! YOU! LITTLE BIT.

YEAH, YOU HEARD ME. YOU LOST? WANT SOMETHING TO EAT?

YOU... YOU DON'T MIND SHARING?

I CAN'T RESIST KITTENS DOWN ON THEIR LUCK. C'MERE.

THIS IS DELICIOUS. WHAT IS IT?

CHICKEN. I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T KNOW, YOU BEING A KITTYPET AND ALL.

I KEEP HEARING THAT WORD. WHAT'S A "KITTYPET"?

IT'S WHAT YOU ARE. CAT THAT LIVES WITH THE TWOLEGS. THAT COLLAR GIVES IT AWAY.

I WOULD ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING OUT HERE, BUT HEY... NONE OF MY BUSINESS.

SO KITTYPETS LIVE WITH TWOLEGS. AND THEY WEAR THESE COLLARS.

WELL, I DON'T LIVE WITH TWOLEGS ANYMORE.

AND I DON'T WANT TO WEAR THIS COLLAR.

BUT...I CAN'T...CAN'T GET IT...OFF!

HA!! HA!! HA!! HA!! HA!! HA!!

STUPID COLLAR. STUPID CATS. I'LL FIND A WAY TO GET THIS THING OFF, AND WHEN I DO, I'LL—

MRRAAHRR!

IT'S A DOG! DOGS CHASE CATS, AND, AND EAT THEM SOMETIMES, AND I THINK I MIGHT PASS OUT—

—BUT WAIT.

SA-A-AM! SAMWISE! HERE, BOY!

THIS DOG IS OLD.

WHUFF

SO OLD HE CAN BARELY MOVE. HE'S NOT GONNA EAT ME.

THAT'S WHEN I SEE HIS TOOTH.

IF HIS TEETH KEEP FALLING OUT, HE WON'T BE EATING ANYTHING.

BUT MAYBE I CAN USE IT...

...TO GET THIS THING...OFF ME...

UGH!

...STUPID COLLAR.

YOU'LL NEVER FORGET ME...

...WILL YOU?

MEEP?

NO.

I'LL NEVER FORGET.

THE NEXT DAY, I CAN'T FIND THE OLD SHE-CAT WHO LET ME SHARE HER CHICKEN...

...SO I'VE GOT TO PLAY NICE.

EXCUSE ME...

...MAY I PLEASE SHARE YOUR FOOD?

WHERE'D THAT TOOTH COME FROM?

—I RIPPED IT RIGHT OUT OF A DOG'S HEAD!

HUH?

OH, THE TOOTH...I—

THE DOG WAS GOING AFTER SOME FOOD I HAD STASHED AWAY...

...SO I HAD TO PUT IT IN ITS PLACE.

IT WAS PRETTY FIERCE, BUT IT COULDN'T STAND UP TO ME.

ONCE IT WAS DEAD, I PRIED OPEN ITS MOUTH AND TOOK THIS TROPHY.

IS THAT A FACT?

HUH.

HELP YOURSELF.

I DON'T THINK THEY BELIEVE ME, NOT ALL THE WAY.

BUT RIGHT NOW, I DON'T CARE.

YOU? YOU KILLED A DOG AND TOOK ITS TOOTH?

HOURS GO BY, AND I DON'T FEEL TOO BAD. MY BELLY'S STILL FULL, AND I FIND A QUIET PLACE TO SLEEP.

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN THAT WOULDN'T LAST.

HEY, YOU IN THERE. YOU IN THE TIRE.

HUH?

ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

MY NAME IS BONE, AND THIS IS BRICK.

WE WANT TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

UH...OKAY.

ABOUT WHAT?

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU FIGHT DOGS?

ALL OF A SUDDEN IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S A ROCK IN MY STOMACH. WHAT DO I SAY? WHAT DO I DO?

UM...YES...?

GOOD. PLEASE FOLLOW US.

I DON'T THINK I HAVE A CHOICE. THE TWO CATS TAKE ME DEEPER INTO TWOLEGPLACE THAN I'VE EVER BEEN BEFORE...

DUGGAN'S

BAKERY

DELI

SUBS

...AND THEY SHOW ME A PLACE I WOULD NEVER GO ON MY OWN.

OKAY...SO... WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

IT WON'T LET ANY OF US NEAR THE FOOD. WE'VE TRIED TO CHASE IT AWAY, BUT IT'S TOO BIG. TOO STRONG.

A BIG DOG HAS MADE ITS DEN BACK HERE.

WILL YOU FIGHT THE DOG FOR US?

I TRY TO SAY SOMETHING, BUT MY TONGUE WON'T WORK. IT'S JUST AS WELL, BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY ANYWAY.

DO I SAY YES? DO I SAY NO? ...HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIGHT A DOG?

MAYBE HE WAS LYING THE WHOLE TIME. MAYBE HE'S NEVER FOUGHT ANYTHING BEFORE.

EITHER WAY. YOU HAVE UNTIL MOONHIGH TO DECIDE WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO. AND IF YOU DECIDE NOT TO FIGHT...

...IT WOULD BE BEST FOR YOU TO LEAVE THIS PLACE. FOR GOOD.

IT'S NOT A ROCK IN MY STOMACH NOW.

IT'S A BALL OF ICE.

I FIGURE I CAN GET A BETTER IDEA OF THINGS IF I CAN SEE MORE.

IT'S NOT TOO HARD TO CLIMB UP TO THE TOP OF THE BIG TWOLEG DEN.

WOW...THERE'RE A LOT MORE CATS AROUND HERE THAN I THOUGHT!

AND THEY'RE ALL...

...REALLY HUNGRY.

THE DOG'S KEEPING THEM FROM A LOT OF FOOD.

I REMEMBER MAMA TALKING ABOUT HOW SAVAGE THE FOREST CATS WERE...

...BUT I DON'T THINK THESE CATS ARE ANY BETTER.

I DON'T WANT TO...
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO...

...BUT I'D BETTER GET A LOOK AT WHAT'S CAUSING ALL THESE PROBLEMS.

OH...NO...

IT'S HUGE.

I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT THIS DOG! I CAN'T! I'M JUST A KIT!

PLUS I'M SCARED TO DEATH.

BUT...ALL THOSE CATS DOWN THERE ARE AFRAID, TOO. WE'RE ALL AFRAID TOGETHER.

I THINK ABOUT RUNNING AWAY AGAIN. BUT WHERE?

LIKE IT OR NOT... I THINK THIS PLACE IS MY HOME NOW.

I HAVE TO FIGHT.

EVEN IF IT KILLS ME.

I HEAR THEM WHISPERING. SOME OF THEM ARE SAYING I MUST BE CRAZY.

THEY MIGHT BE RIGHT. WHAT AM I DOING?

THERE IT IS. THERE IT IS. JUST STAY CALM. KEEP WALKING. STAY CALM.

WHAT WAS I THINKING? HOW AM I GOING TO FIGHT THIS THING? I'M TOO SMALL! I'M WAY TOO SMALL!

RRRRRRHHH

HOLD ON. IT'S—THE DOG ISN'T LOOKING AT ME. WHY ISN'T IT LOOKING AT ME?

RRRRRRHHH

WHAT'S IT GROWLING AT?

RRRRRRWHIMPER

BUT— HOW DID— THAT'S MY SHADOW! THE DOG'S AFRAID OF MY SHADOW!

WOW. DOGS ARE REALLY STUPID.

YIPE YIPE YIPE YIPE YIPE

MAYBE I CAN GRAB A DIFFERENT KIND OF TROPHY...

YIPE YIPE YIPE YIPE YIPE

YIPE YIPE YIPE

I KNOW THIS ISN'T REAL. IT ISN'T TRUE. I DIDN'T BEAT THAT DOG.

BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET ANY OF THESE CATS KNOW THAT.

THAT WAS AMAZING!

HOW'D YOU DO THAT--

OUR HERO!

NEVER WOULD'VE BELIEVED...!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU SO MUCH, YOU'VE SAVED US, YOU'VE SAVED OUR LIVES!

...WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I TRY NOT TO LET IT SHOW, BUT IT REALLY HITS ME: NOBODY HERE HAS EVER ASKED WHAT MY NAME IS.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT? IT ISN'T "TINY." NOT ANYMORE.

THOSE SAVAGES ARE A SCOURGE ON THE NAME OF ALL GOOD CATS.

MY NAME IS SCOURGE.

I SHOULD BE HAPPY.

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, THINGS ARE GOING MY WAY.

I SHOULD ENJOY IT.

BUT I CAN'T.

NOT YET.

I AWAKE AT DAYBREAK THE FOLLOWING MORNING, READY TO GO OUT SEARCHING FOR FOOD AGAIN...

...ONLY TO FIND THAT THE CATS I HELPED THE NIGHT BEFORE HAVE DECIDED TO HELP ME.

I EAT EVERY BIT OF THE CHICKEN AND SAVOR EACH BITE.

I SEE THEM WATCHING ME. THEY TRY TO BE SUBTLE, BUT I SEE THEM.

THESE CATS DON'T LIKE ME.

BUT THEY FEAR ME.

AND THAT'S JUST AS GOOD. ...MAYBE BETTER.

THE CUP

IF SOCKS AND RUBY COULD SEE ME NOW...

...THEY'D KNOW JUST HOW WRONG THEY WERE ABOUT ME.

SOON ALL THESE SAVAGE TWOLEGPLACE CATS START COMING TO ME WITH THEIR PROBLEMS.

WELL, SIR, YOU SEE, HE DIDN'T HAVE NO CALL TO TAKE THAT RAT... IT WAS MY RAT, Y'SEE, SIR, AND IT JUST DON'T SEEM RIGHT NOHOW...

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS USE COMMON SENSE. THAT, OR JUST TELL THESE POOR CREATURES TO STAND UP FOR THEMSELVES.

AND IT WORKS. THEY TREAT ME LIKE SOME SORT OF WISE OLD CAT.

BRICK AND BONE TELL ME WORD HAS STARTED GETTING AROUND ABOUT THE NEW CAT IN CHARGE.

THE THING IS...WHEN YOU'RE THE CAT IN CHARGE, YOU GET THE BAD ALONG WITH THE GOOD.

FULL

I FIND THAT OUT A COUPLE OF WEEKS LATER.

SCOURGE? SCOURGE, ARE YOU AWAKE?

MRRRHH... YES—I'LL BE OUT IN A MOMENT.

WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S—THERE ARE SOME ROGUE CATS, BEHIND A TWOLEG FOOD PLACE, AND...

..THEY'RE CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE. WE'RE AFRAID THEY'RE GOING TO HURT OR EVEN KILL SOMEONE.

WILL YOU HELP US?

AT FIRST IT FEELS GOOD. REALLY GOOD. THESE CATS TRUST ME. THEY BELIEVE I CAN SOLVE THEIR PROBLEM.

AND FOR JUST A SECOND...

...WHEN I PICK UP THE SCENT OF FOREST...

sniff! sniff!

...I THINK MAYBE THAT TABBY HAS COME BACK. MAYBE IT'S MY TURN NOW.

PIZZA

BURGER SHACK

BUT NO.

I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS CAT BEFORE.

WHICH MAKES HIM NO LESS AN INTRUDER, OF COURSE.

YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST COME HERE AND TAKE FOOD, WITHOUT MY SAY-SO?

GET OVER THERE AND BRING ME SOMETHING TO EAT!

MAYBE THEN I'LL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU.

LEAVE HER ALONE AND GET OUT OF HERE.

TROUBLE, BOSS?

WANT US TO TAKE CARE OF IT?

NO, NO TROUBLE WOULD BE BIGGER.

WE'RE LOOKING AT A NUISANCE

THEN SPEAK TO ME.

YOU WANT TO TALK, RUNT?

IF I SPEAK, IT'LL ONLY BE WITH THE LEADER OF THIS RAMSHACKLE LOT.

SPEAK TO Y—?

HAHAHAHAHAHA

YOU? LEADER?

YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A KITTYPET.

TELL YOU WHAT, KITTYPET. WE'RE JUST PASSING THROUGH... BUT WHILE I'M HERE, YOU CAN BE MY PERSONAL SERVANT.

GO FETCH ME SOME WATER.

NOW.

THEY'RE LAUGHING AT ME. LAUGHING.

AND AS THEY DO IT, I CAN TELL...

...MY OWN CATS ARE STARTING TO DOUBT ME.

I CAN FEEL THE BLOOD IN MY VEINS START TO GROW COLD.

I'M NOT SMALL. I'M NOT WEAK. I'M SCOURGE, AND THIS PLACE BELONGS TO ME.

AND IF THEY WON'T GIVE ME THE PROPER RESPECT...

THEN I'LL TAKE IT BY FORCE.

SRRATCH

KKHK

MY CATS NEED TO BE SHOWN.

ONCE THEY UNDERSTAND WHAT CAN BE DONE...THEY'LL TRUST IN ME TO SHOW THEM HOW TO DO IT.

I CAN FEEL THEM. BEHIND ME. MOVING IN. CLOSING RANKS.

NOW ALL THEY NEED IS A GESTURE.

I'VE HAD MY FILL OF THIS PLACE.

IT IS TIME WE RETURNED TO THE FOREST...WHERE WE BELONG.

I HAD TO HAVE ICE IN MY VEINS TO DO WHAT I JUST DID.

I EXPECT THE ICE TO MELT...

FROM NOW ON, NO ONE TAKES FOOD FROM THIS PLACE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.

BUT IT DOESN'T. IT JUST GETS COLDER AND COLDER.

...AND I WELCOME IT.

THINGS CHANGE AFTER I KILL THAT ROGUE. EVERYBODY STILL COMES TO ME WITH THEIR PROBLEMS, THAT'S FOR SURE...

...BUT NOW THEY COME BEARING GIFTS. TROPHIES.

I DON'T ASK WHERE THEY GOT THESE THINGS, OR HOW. I JUST ACCEPT THEM AS SIGNS OF MY CATS' ALLEGIANCE.

I HAVE EVERYTHING I EVER WANTED.

CONTROL OVER EVERY STRAY CAT IN TWOLEGPLACE. NO CAT COMES HERE WITHOUT MY SAY SO.

I KNOW OF EVERY KIT THAT'S BORN, AND THEY ALL FEAR ME.

AND YET I AM STILL NOT CONTENT.

THAT NIGHT I GET A SERIOUS SHOCK, WHEN BRICK AND BONE TELL ME I HAVE VISITORS.

MORE CATS WITH PROBLEMS, I FIGURE. I TELL THEM TO SHOW THESE VISITORS TO ME...

I LET THEM HANG FOR A LONG MOMENT. THEN:

...AND MY EYES ALMOST LEAP OUT OF MY HEAD! IT'S SOCKS AND RUBY!

SO IT'S TRUE!

TINY—I MEAN, SCOURGE—OUR HOUSEFOLK MOVED AWAY AND ABANDONED US.

WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET OUR OWN FOOD. WILL YOU HELP US? PLEASE?

WHY SHOULD I?

MY OWN CATS BARELY HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT. IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM IF YOU'RE TOO STUPID AND WEAK TO FEED YOURSELVES.

BUT...BUT SCOURGE..! WE'RE YOUR LITTERMATES!

DOESN'T BLOOD MEAN ANYTHING?

OH YES. BLOOD IS EVERYTHING. BUT THE ONLY BLOOD I'M INTERESTED IN FLOWS FROM MY ENEMIES. LOOK AROUND YOU!

THESE CATS ARE BATHED IN BLOOD. IT SOAKS THEIR FUR AND LAPS AT THEIR PAWS. THIS IS WHY WE SURVIVE!

WE ARE *BLOODCLAN!*

I CAN TELL MY WORDS ARE LOST ON THEM. I LET THEM EAT.

BUT AS SOON AS THEY FINISH...

GET THESE TWO OUT OF MY SIGHT. THEY ARE NOT WELCOME IN BLOODCLAN TERRITORY.

YES, SCOURGE.

OH YES. THE BLOOD OF MY ENEMIES WILL FLOW BEFORE I AM CONTENT.

AND THEN ONE NIGHT...

...MANY MOONS LATER...

...THE THING I HOPED FOR, WAITED FOR...LONGED FOR THE MOST...

...JUST PRESENTS ITSELF TO ME. LIKE A GIFT.

IS THIS THE PLACE?

THIS IS IT. NOW, REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU.

THE CAT WE'RE GOING TO MEET HOLDS COMMAND OVER MANY CATS. WE MUST TREAT HIM WITH RESPECT.

IDENTIFY YOURSELVES. WE DON'T LIKE STRANGERS HERE.

GREETINGS, BONE. REMEMBER ME?

...SO YOU'VE COME BACK, HAVE YOU, BOULDER?

I LISTEN TO THEM TALKING AND DON'T MOVE A MUSCLE. IT'S OBVIOUS THEY'VE COME TO SEE ME.

HOW PERFECT.

SCOURGE NEEDS TO HEAR THIS. IT COULD BE TO HIS ADVANTAGE.

...ALL RIGHT. GO AHEAD.

I MEASURE THE CONTEMPT IN HIS EYES AS HE WALKS PAST MY CATS. THAT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN EITHER.

THERE'S SCOURGE.

THAT'S SCOURGE? HE'S NO BIGGER THAN AN APPRENTICE!

SHHH! THIS MAY NOT BE A CLAN AS WE KNOW IT, BUT THESE CATS WOULD *KILL* IF THEIR LEADER ORDERED THEM TO.

IT SEEMS I HAVE VISITORS. I WASN'T EXPECTING TO SEE YOU AGAIN, BOULDER. I HEARD YOU'D GONE TO LIVE IN THE FOREST

YES, SCOURGE, I HAVE.

SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND AND COME CRAWLING BACK? DO YOU EXPECT ME TO WELCOME YOU?

NO, SCOURGE. IT'S A GOOD LIFE IN THE FOREST. THERE IS PLENTY OF FRESH-KILL, NO TWOLEGS—

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I AM TIGERSTAR, THE LEADER OF SHADOWCLAN.

"TIGERSTAR" EXPLAINS THAT HE HAS ENEMIES IN THE FOREST. IN EXCHANGE FOR MY HELP...

...HE WILL GIVE ME A PORTION OF THE TERRITORY THERE.

IT'S AN INTRIGUING SITUATION. I CAN TELL THE TIME FOR TIGERSTAR AND ME TO SETTLE OUR...DIFFERENCES... HAS NOT ARRIVED.

AND I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.

NOT QUITE YET.

BUT I CAN BE PATIENT.

EVENTUALLY THE WORD COMES TO ME: BLOODCLAN IS NEEDED IN THE FOREST.

I GATHER MY FORCES AND MOVE, LEADING THEM AWAY FROM TWOLEGPLACE AND INTO THE WOODS.

AND THERE... AT LAST...

THE TIME...

...IS...

...RIGHT.

BERSERKER
SHARK

MY LITTERMATES SAID I WAS TOO SMALL...TOO WEAK. BUT I'VE PROVEN THEM WRONG.

I'VE LEARNED HOW TO BE STRONG... HOW TO LIVE FOR BLOOD. BECAUSE THAT'S THE KEY. THE ONLY ANSWER.

I AM LEADER OF BLOODCLAN. I AM SCOURGE.

AND I HAVE WON!

ERIN HUNTER

is inspired by a love of cats and a fascination with the ferocity of the natural world. In addition to having great respect for nature in all its forms, Erin enjoys creating rich mythical explanations for animal behavior. She is the author of the Warriors, Seekers, Survivors, Bravelands, and Bamboo Kingdom series. Erin lives in the UK.

THE ORIGINAL WARRIORS STORY
LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE!

For generations, four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest. But the cats of ThunderClan are in grave danger, and sinister ShadowClan grows stronger every day. In the midst of this turmoil appears a house cat named Rusty—who may turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all.

Ever since the first Warriors book hit shelves, readers have devoured these epic adventures. This stunning new adaptation retells the original Warriors story arc as a full color graphic novel.

A DEADLY DESIRE FOR REVENGE IS BORN.

When kittypet Tiny crosses paths with some wild forest cats defending their territory, he's left with scars—and a deep-seated grudge. As his reputation grows among the strays and loners who live in the dirty brick alleyways of Twolegplace, he changes his name to Scourge and puts everything about his old life behind him—except his bloodthirsty craving for vengeance.

FIRE ALONE CAN SAVE OUR CLAN

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

Enter the wild at
WARRIORCATS.COM

A WORKING PARTNERS BOOK

HARPER alley

An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

Ages 8–12

Cover art © 2008, 2024 by HarperCollins Publishers

Art by Bettina Kurkoski
Colors by Danielle Weires

harperalley.com